



Figure 4.3. A schematic representation of a typical procedure for creating fractions by multiple centrifugations at increasing speeds. Reprinted from E. D. P. De Robertis, W. W. Nowinski, and F. Saez (1960), *General Cytology* (Third ed.). Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Company, Figure 4.1 on p. 79, with permission from Elsevier.

### Interpreting Fractionation Results

The immediate goal of cell fractionation is the determination of the chemical, especially enzymatic, composition of different cell organelles, which could then in turn support claims about the functions performed by those organelles. Typically after fractionation, however, investigators found a particular enzyme